



# Biroca Quarterly

*Birch Rock Camp Community Newsletter*

*Fall Issue*

*October 2005*

## **Birch Rock offers two sensational Wilderness Adventures for our teenagers to enjoy in 2006!**

### **Washington Wilderness Adventure** coed, ages 15-17      July 18- Aug. 9

Todd Erler has successfully run our first four Maine Wilderness Adventure trips. Now he's ready for something new. Participants will meet Todd in Seattle for a one day orientation prior to the start of their quest.

We start our adventure with an eight day hike through the Olympic National Park. After hiking, we will ferry to the San Juan Islands. Here, for four days, we will explore the islands by kayak. Next it's off to Whidbey Island for four days of biking the island's coast. So next we're off to do some rock climbing on Mt Erie, and finally rap it all up with white water rafting.

Todd is a school teacher in Seattle and a highly experienced trip leader. Please contact us for more information about this terrific new program.



**Outstanding Badge(s) from the Season?** If you are missing a badge that was to be mailed to you, please email us @ [birchrock@aol.com](mailto:birchrock@aol.com).

### **MAINE WILDERNESS ADVENTURE** boys, ages 14-16      July 23-Aug. 15

This adventure is a classic. We begin with a 6 day backpack that brings us to Mt. Katahdin. After we summit the highest mountain in Maine we spend 5 days learning white water canoeing on the St Croix River. From white water it is on to white caps, and ocean travel for three days of kayaking along the coast. We then try our hand at the cliffs of coastal Maine with rock climbing and hiking around Acadia National Park. A rafting trip on the mighty Kennebec River is the cherry that tops it all off.

### **MWA Leadership for 2006!**

Veteran Birch Rock Counselor and Bethel, ME-Telstar school teacher **Dave Jenkins** has been officially appointed Director of Birch Rock's MWA Program for 2006. Dave is a graduate of Towson State University with a Masters in Education from the University of Maine. He returns to BRC after a two year hiatus.

Dave has extensive backpacking, canoeing and wilderness adventure experience in Maine and throughout New England. A former camp counselor/instructor in waterfront and field activities and leader of the camp's trip program, Dave brings his love of education and outdoor living back to this specialized camp program for boys ages 14 -16.

"We're glad Dave could return for another season leading this challenging program for our veteran campers. With his past trip experience, he is an excellent candidate to enhance our MWA program," says Camp Director Mike Mattson.

For more information, visit our website: [www.birchrock.org](http://www.birchrock.org)

## Early Registration Sign Up!

If you know you are coming back for another summer in 2006, please sign up today. As you know we have a limited number of beds on campus, and we would like to make sure that our veteran campers will have a space if they want to return to camp. You can email us at [birchrock@aol.com](mailto:birchrock@aol.com) for an application. Or if you want it by mail, just call us at (207) 741-2930. If you know of any potential Birch Rockers, please let us know. Our current families are always our best ambassadors!



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## Looking Ahead!

Here's a list of campers for the 2006 season:

### 2006 Campers

Joe Cohen	Darien, CT
Jake Cohen	Darien, CT
Zach Cohen	Darien, CT
Ed Cohen	Darien, CT
Ben Cole	Wayland, MA
Jamie Foley	Bowdoinham, ME
<i>*Ben Foley</i>	<i>Bowdoinham, ME</i>
Henry Gunderson	New York, NY
Chris Huston	Lawrenceville, NJ
David Kane	Falmouth, ME
Theo Lipsky	Brooklyn, NY
Tim Mlynarski	Wilmette, IL
Peter Robbins	Weston, CT
<i>*Freddy Schueler</i>	<i>Huntington Bay, NY</i>
Charlie Schueler	Huntington Bay, NY
Charlie Silverstein	Winnetka, IL
Andrew Ziegler	Minneapolis, MN

*\* New Campers, Welcome Aboard!*

## STAFF NEWS



### **Doug Miller**

Doug left Birch Rock's Family Camp with a few short days before he was supposed to be starting school in New Orleans. Then Katrina hit! Doug had made it to New Orleans and unloaded his car at home before having to evacuate to Alabama. As the horrible news coverage unfolded on TV, Doug realized that he needed to start making fall plans. New Orleans was down, and Doug was now going to be without job and schooling. He rallied and applied to a few colleges.

Doug now finds himself settling into the University of Texas in Austin. He has moved to Austin and is getting ready to continue his update work on the camp website. Stay tuned for more updates to Birch Rock's website. Thanks, Doug! We're glad to hear your okay.

Doug will be back as Head Counselor in 2006. You can also email Doug @ [flashbck@gmail.com](mailto:flashbck@gmail.com)

## THE PARENT COUNCIL

Eager for more details about camp life on McWain Pond? Staff and board members mulled over how best to provide ‘everything you’ve always wanted to know about Birch Rock’. The solution--- summer ’05 saw the launch of *The Council* at parent visiting days. *The Council* is a new forum designed to keep parents and alumni in-the-know about evolving programs and long-standing Birch Rock traditions. The first *Council* newsletter went out to current campers’ families last month, recapping the two summer meetings. Highlights included personal comments offered by campers; details about the re-introduction of a dynamic Nature program by Blake Massey; and a closer look at hugely popular Camp Craft and “Geronimo”(a Capture the Flag-like game based on Indian lore) developed by Ryan “Rhino” Massey.



Happy Birthday to you!

September	9	Chelton Martin
	10	Aidan Bozzelli
	12	Charles Netzer
	13	Theo Lipsky
	14	Andrew Ziegler
	17	Zach Cohen
	18	Grant Carlson
	20	Tim Myers
	20	Charlie Schueler
October	3	Markus Foley
	5	Andrew Bowden
	7	Henry Cleaves
	10	Nate Geremia
	14	Nick Martin
	17	Pat Huycke
	20	Andrew Benjack
	21	Alex McLaughlin
	23	Ben Semmes
	27	Mike Johnson
November	1	Henry Gunderson
	4	Jack Cutler
	9	Pat Bowden
	11	Will Brewster
	18	Dan Huycke
	27	Sam Sherman
	28	Dave Florence
	28	Tom Foorman
December	6	Ben Howard
	8	Sam Cleaves
	11	Drew Cash
	14	Jeremy Lifter
	20	Peter Burke
	24	Alex Melberg
	29	Jack Coster

### Campus & Maintenance Update

The new Chief's cabin was insulated a few weekends ago, and we're gearing up to finish the interior walls and add heat. We're looking forward to having a year round building on campus.

Our Mountain Biking program has been so successful that we're expanding the mountain biking shed for more space. With more space for bikes, the boys will be able to work on their bikes in the shed without tripping over the stored bikes.

We are also planning to continue to thin out the dead trees on campus and plant new ones.

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Archery continues to be one of our most popular activities. With two new bows and a bunch of new arrows purchased this summer, the boys will have a lot of badges to look forward to earning in 2006.



### BRC Dates for 2006

BRC Summer Office Opens	June 1, 2006
Spring Cleanup Work Weekend	June 4, 2006
BRC Staff Orientation	June 19, 2006
BRC Opening 1 <sup>st</sup> Session	June 28, 2006
BRC 1 <sup>st</sup> Visitation Day	July 9, 2006
BRC 1 <sup>st</sup> Session Ends	July 22, 2006
BRC Opening 2 <sup>nd</sup> Session	July 23, 2006
Maine Wilderness Adventure	July 23, 2006
BRC Board Day	Aug. 5, 2006
BRC 2 <sup>nd</sup> Visitation Day	Aug. 6, 2006
MWA – Returns	Aug, 13, 2006
BRC for Boys ends	Aug. 15, 2006
BRC Family Camp	Aug. 18, 2006
BRC Family Camp ends	Aug. 22, 2006

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